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## Henry Taylor / Behind the Suicides



THE suicide of West German Rear Adm. Hermann Luedke, one of six such deaths in a fusillade of shocks affecting our European security, is only the visible cap on the NATO espionage iceberg.

The Soviet, zeroing in on NATO, is scoring much more heavily than we are told against our vital defense positions.

Admiral Luedke, recently the deputy chief of NATO's logistics command, took his life with a hunting rifle in the Eifel Mountains on Oct. 8. Our U.S. intelligence services maintain a liaison with the West German Federal Intelligence Service (BND) at Pullach, Bavaria, in a former Nazi installation near Dachau. Our joint investigation of Luedke's suicide turned up microfilms of nine NATO top-secret documents.

Admiral Luedke, necessarily, held a CTX (cosmic top secret) security clearance. This CTS is a lethal weapon if in the hands of any full-grown, four-square, paid-up traitor.

SUICIDES likewise have erupted all but simultaneously in the deaths of Maj. Gen. Horst Wendland, deputy chief of the BND itself; Lieut. Col. Johannes Grimm, A Defense Ministry counter-espionage officer; Hans-Heinrich Schenk, an Economics Ministry senior official; Federal Press Office librarian Edeltraud Grapentin; and an employee in the Defense Ministry, Gerhard Boehn.

German communists call an agent kaltgestalt in the Red's technical jargon for a trained party member who is "on ice" between missions. The suicides led to two highly publicized arrests on Oct. 22 for the bold theft of a U.S. missile and

secret navigational equipment from the Neuburg NATO base. Actually, they were kaltgestalt operators.

As another result (unrevealed), our intelligence services now agree that there are, incredibly, in West Berlin alone at least 12,000 iron curtain agents.

All, of course, are ultimately controlled—as are the innumerable agents here—by the Kremlin leadership and KGB foreign intelligence Chief Lt. Gen. Aleksandr M. Sakharovsky.

IN Brussels 14 nations have 14 representatives sitting with our NATO Ambassador, J. Harlan Cleveland, and a top-level American military mission. Practically everything we do diplomatically and militarily in Europe, or intend to do, requires us to inform NATO—our decisions, and indecisions alike. We cannot avoid disclosures because our policies and future actions usually depend upon NATO co-operation.

Thus our highest intentions and immediate capabilities against Russia go from the White House and State Department to Brussels in great secrecy. But there and then the intelligence world flies apart.

America's secrets go thru Brussels to the Kremlin like water thru a sieve. Accordingly, the Kremlin has a ringside chair at the White House conference table.

The Soviet knows what President Johnson really intends to do about a push against Berlin or Yugoslavia, for example, before many in our own Washington Government may know it. The Kremlin knows what we are urging our allies to do, and to what extent Washington is prepared to appease Russia and where. The Kremlin knows everything—and at once.

These are the deeper facts behind the West German suicides and arrests.